## THE MADISONIAN.

THOMAS ALLEN, Editor and Proprietor.

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## THE MADISONIAN.

VOL. IV .- NO. 18.]

WASHINGTON CITY, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1840.

[WHOLE NO. 398.

A STOR HOUSE, New York.—The undersigned respectfully announce that the price, at the Ladies' Ordinary, for each person, will be - \$2 per day. Gentlemen's Ordinary and servants 1 do. Children under 12 years, and servants 1 do. person, with private table, for each

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A system of Practical Medicine: Dissertations on Pevers, and Diseases of the skin. Edited by Alexander Tweedie, 1 vol., just received by F. TAYLOR, Immediately east of Gadsby's Hotel.

NEW NOVEL—" The Quiet Husband," by Miss Pickering, author of "Merchant's Daughter," "The Fright," &c., is just published and this day re-

From the Providence Journal. We have seldom met with any thing more perfect in its kind, than the following description of a September evening. The melancholy sweetness of the thought, and the shadowy splendor of the imagery, are in fine keeping with the season and the hour, and impart to this beautiful lyric, a charm which will be felt by every true lover of poetry. It is from the pen of Mrs. Sarah K. Whithan, and was originally published in the Knickerbocker.

A SEPTEMBER EVENING.

A SEPTEMBER EVENING.

ON THE BANKS OF THE MOSHASSUCK.

Now to the seasons of sweet silent thought summon up remembrance of things past.

Shakspeare's Sonnets

Shakspeare's S
Again September's golden day,
Serenely still, intensely bright,
Fades on the umbered hills away
And melts into the coming night.
Again on Moshassuck's silver tide
Reflects each green herb on its side,
Each tasselled wreath and tangling vine
Whose tendrils o'er its margin twine.

And standing on its velvet shore,
Where yesterdaynight with thee I stood,
I trace its devious crurse once more
Far wind ng on through vale and wood;
Now glimmering through yon golden mist
By the last glist ning sunbeams kissed,
Now lost where lengthening shadows fall
From hazel-copse and moss-fringed wall.

Near where you rocks the stream inurn.
The lonely gentian blossoms still,
Still wave the star-flower and the fern.
O'er the soft outline of the hill,
While far aloft where pine-trees throw.
Their shade athwart the sun-set glow,
Thin vapours cloud the illumined air.
And parting day light lingers there.

But ah, no longer thou art near
This varied loveliness to see,
And I though fondly langering here,
To night can only think on thee.
The flowers which late thy hand caressed
Still lie unwithered on my breast,
And still thy footsteps print the shore
Where thou and I may rove no more.

Again I hear the flute-like fall, Again I hear the flute-like fall,
Of water from yon distant dell;
The beetle s hum, the cricket's call,
And, far away, that evening bell;
Again, again those sounds I hear—
Yet oh, how desolate and drear
They seem to night—how like a knell
The music of that evening bell!

Again the new moon in the west,
Scarce seen upon yon golden sky,
Hangs o'er the mountain's purple crest,
With one pale planet trembling nigh;
And beautiful her pearly light,
As when we blessed her beams last night;
But thou art o'er the far blue sea,
And I can only think on thee.

'rovidence, Sept. 13, 1840.

THE TORIES ON OUR LEE.

With a square yard and a flowing sheet,
And a wind that follows fast,
That fills the wet and rustling sail,
And bends the gallant mast.
And bends the gallant mast, my boys,
White like an eagle free,
Away our good ship flies and leaves
The Tories on our lee.

Chorus.—The Tories on our lee, my boys, The Tories on our lee— Away our good ship flies and leaves The Tories on our lee.

"O, for a soft and gentle wind!" "O, for a soft and gentie wind:

I heard a fair one sigh—
But give to me the swelling breeze,
And the white waves heaving high, my boys,
Our good ship tight and free—
The Constitution is her name,
A good whip ship is she. A good whig ship is she

A good wing since is her name,
A good whig ship is she—
A way, away, she files and leaves,
The Tories on our lee.

There's tempest in yon horned moon There's lightning in yon cloud, And, hark the music!—mariners, The wind is rising loud. e, wind is rising loud.

The wing is rising loud, my boys,
The lightning flashes free—
But Harrison commander is—
We fear no storm nor sea.

Chorus.—But Harrison commander is,—
We fear no storm nor sea,
Away our good ship flies and leaves
The Tories on our lee.

H. B. Grigsby has retired from the editorial chair of the Norfolk Beacon. Wm. E. Cunningham, the late representative of the Borough in the House of Delegates, succeeds him. In the farewell address of Mr. Grigsby to his patrons, we find the following beautiful and appropriate notice of the Norw. priate notice of the Navy:

The intimate relations that have existed be The intimate relations that have existed between the officers of the Navy and ourselves demand, even in this hasty address, a friendly recognition. It has been the agreeable task of the editors of the Beacon from its commencement to record naval intelligence, and to sustain with all their vigor the interests and honor of the service. If our gallant officers have not won of late years new laurels and brought in the flags of a vanquished foe to emblazon the archives of been raised against our common country, and no hostile prow has shown itself on the deep. But their services, although not as dazzling to the common eye as those of war, have not been the less useful to the nation and glorious to them selves. Wherever our ships of war have ap peared, in whatever our snips of war have ap-peared, in whatever port or on what sea soever their stars and stripes have been given to the breeze, the estimate of our national character has been exalted, our institutions have been renas been exaited, our institutions have been regarded with higher respect, and the interests of our commerce most effectually promoted. Such a result, so gratifying to an honorable pride, is of more practical advantage, and more truly noble than a hundred victories won by the cannon and the sword. The immense martial prenow making, prove incontestibly, that hence forth the ocean is to be the battle field of empires and teach us the timely lesson, that, if we wish to sustain ourselves in a contest with an Euro pean power, we must look to the Navy as ou main, if not only hope. How important, then, that this branch of the public service should be fondly cherished! We know the present officers to be brave men and accomplished gentlemen, and that they will acquit themselves in any emergency with all their ancient valor; but let pol squabble for temporary objects, they slight the interests and touch the pride of those whose acts ennoble so many pages of our history, and from whom so much is anticipated in any future

MAJOR EATON.—The Van Buren press, since Major Eaton's return from Spain, and since he came out against Mr. Van Buren, have got up a story that he had overdrawn his account, and was a defaulter for \$2,677. In this way they seek to destroy his reputation, and break the effect of his exertions against misrule. The Nashville Banner, by authority of Major Eaton gives this charge a direct contradiction. The law fixes the salary of foreign ministers, and the allowance for contingencies, such as stationery, &c. The amount allowed for contingencies at Madrid, where Major Eaton was, is \$800. These contingencies were allowed to Mr. Van Buren, as Minister to a England under the law, and it can hardly be supposed he would now direct their disallowance to another minister, because he does not think Mr. Van Buren should be re-elected President—but we shall see.—Cincinnati Gazette.

## Communications

SPECIE CIRCULAR REVIEWED.

No. 1v. Having seen that neither the law of 1816, nor the of 1820, give the Secretary the right to demand gold and silver for the public lands, in exclusion of the notes of specie-paying banks, payable and paid, &c.; let us look to the objects the Secretary had in view in issuing the Specie Circular. And here we are relieved from any sort of difficulty, for the reasons are openly sons are avowed, for, in the opinion of some, other ends were designed to be encompassed. Without in-tending, in our humble labors, to derogate in the slight-est degree, from that well earned and splendid fame which attaches to General Jackson as a soldier and patriot, we may nevertheless dispassionately say, that in his essential temper he was aident and overbearing. That when his angry passions, from whatever cause, were once fairly enkindled, they flamed vengeance on his adversary, whether in the field or out of it. In the his adversary, whether in the field or out of it. In the impassioned language of Othello, his resentments when fully raised, never "ebbed" until "a wide and capable revenge" had removed or swallowed the offending object up. With belligerent feelings excited to the highest and most uncompromising pitch, he waged unceasing war upon the Bank of the United States. Although that institution, from the impetuosity and perseverance of his attack, was shorn of her main attendate and driver into the preserver. strength, and driven into the narrow limits of a State Charter, still he seemed to fear she might again revive and be one day reinvested with her former powers. In order to extinguish such a hope, and to make sure work, some have conjected he issued the Specie Cir-cular, unmindful of the effects it would produce, not on his old adversary alone, but also upon all simils institutions, not excepting the favorite deposite banks themselves. We are not qualified as to time or ability to discuss this point further, and have merely thrown out the suggestion for others to consider on.

again return to our immediate subject.

We think it may be asserted as a well sustained truth, that from the time the office of Secretary of the Treasury was created, up to 1833 at least, the main object of Secretaries has been confined to a simple collection of the revenue, as by law prescribed, and whenever any discretion has been exercised, it was merely such a discretion as appeared necessary to-wards that single end. A discrimination was sometimes made between the notes of one specie-paying bank and another as already said, but never, whe the notes were at par with gold and silver, where of-fered. The report of Mr. Secretary Dallas to Con-gress in 1816, clearly up to that time attests this, and grees in 1816, clearly up to that time attests this, and men, either in or out of office, may do well to look at that document with attention. But at a later day we are to approach a new era in the government; an era at which the powers and duties of the Secretary "by

direction of the President" are to take a higher and time, when the collection of the revenues is no more to be regarded as an end, but as an instrument with which to reach other ends-and an instrument, too of tremendous power and effect. Legislative powers are to be enlisted in the service; the sphere of the Executive to be enlarged, and even the Constitution itself trespassed upon in the attempt. Let us recur

"The principal object of the President [the Secre tary was merely passive] in adopting this measure being to repress alleged frauds, and to withhold any countenance or facilities in the powers of the government from the monopoly of the public lands in the hands of speculators and capitalists, to the injury of ruinous extension of bank issues, and bank credits, by which those results are generally supposed to be promoted, your utmost vigilance is required and relied on to carry this order into complete execution." In support of this order, neither the law of 1816, nor that o 1820, nor the general law defining and regulating the duties [see that law in our first number,] of the Se-cretary is referred to. The Secretary is in nowise about to execute a duty prescribed by his great and and to whom he should report accordingly, at the proper time, the manner in which that duty has been performed;—but he is now about to obey a new master tive before, and it is hoped never will be again. The four powers are these. 1st. To legislate generally on the subject of frauds in the purchasing of public lands 2d. To make a distinction between the citizens of different States. 3d. To make a discrimination between different branches of the revenue. And 4th. To regulate the currency. Here we have a vast and exended front of powers, and if really in the hands o

ny one man, of what account are any other powers We are informed by the honorable Senator from New Jersey, (Mr. Southard,) in his able and elaborate speech touching our subject, that "one Senator (Mr Buchanan,) has said, that by some strange accident Congress had lost all control in regard to the curren This awful truth, it seems, was not unknown to ome administration men, as well as to others; an ndeed was plain enough to every candid person : bu whether or not it was the effect of "some strange accident," or of settled design, is a question now before the people, and yet craves investigation. So far as the Circular is concerned, we discover from its very face, that legislative powers are openly assumed ;-frauds in the sales of the public lands are to be corrected—is not that a legislative function? The currency is to be regulated; who has power to do that save Congress All will admit that Congress have, or once had, the power to legislate over these matters, and if so, their power is, by the terms of the Constitution, not conthemselves. The words of the Constitution cannot be misunderstood. "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States which shall consist of a Senate and House of Repre sentatives." Not a part of the legislative power in Congress and a part in the Executive, but all in Congress. Who doubts whether these terms of the Constitution, both in spirit and letter, have been entrenched upon by the Specie Circular? Again, the Specie Circular makes an unauthorized

may purchase lands for Bank paper, but other citizens rights and privileges of its citizens; but then the citi, the United States to regulate the people's currency tens of each of the other States are fully entitled to We will propose one example, which will suffice for unfairly and oppressively applied. It is unnecessary,

all. The Constitution of Virginia, in certain cases some others, certain property qualifications, before a but a citizen of another State (of New York for in-stance) going into Virginia, and complying with the terms of the Virginia Constitution, is entitled to those same privileges; not so much because the State of Vir-ginia sanctions it, but in spite of Virginia, for the U. S. Constitution forbids her making any such discrimi-nations. The citizen of New York, in such case, does not ask this Virginia of as a matter of favor, but by force of the Constitution demands it as a matter of right. What holds in this one case, holds in all simi-lar cases whatever may be the subject matter. The lar cases, whatever may be the subject matter. The Constitution says, "Shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities," &c. The Secretary of the Treasury, "by direction of the President," has declared, that those citizens, purchasing public lands, and not residing in the State or Territory where the lands are situate (see the Circular) shall not have the same privileges and immunities in making payment for those lands, as other citizens who do not actually settle on such lands, or who do not bona fide reside in such State or Territory where the lands lie. Is not here a violation of the Constitution, in exercising a power which Congress itself is forbid to exercise? It is true, this unfair and illegal distinction does not now exist, having ceased on the 15th December, 1836; but still Mr. Editor, it did exist for many months, and we know not in what form it might exist again. If the people have once submitted to the usurpation, it might be read-ily argued by those in power, as in the line of safe precedents, to try the policy again. It is at least well to

understand the matter rightly.

The Constitution furthermore declares, that "all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States." In the Specie Circular, although we do not perhaps see this article violated in terms, yet we do in spirit. Does any candid person believe that it would not be unconstitutional, in effect, to make the payments for the public lands otherwise than "uniform throughout the United States"? . If such a thing were admissible, would it not form a gross inconsi tency, and call loudly for amendment? But, sir, we contend that there is no such amendment required, for that the Constitution (that great movement of human wisdom and justice) does already, by implication and analogy at least, forbid such discrimination; and has therefore, in effect, been transgressed in this instance.

Again, the Specie Circular attemps to regulate the currency. We are openly told by the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Benton) and we could appeal to no better authority on that point, in his speech of that winter ('36-'7) "That it would be observed by the Senate, that the reasons for issuing the Treasury Order are introduced by the President under the head of currency, and not under the head of public lands; and that in his whole manner of treating it, the currency is the object, and the lands the incident. The regulation of the currency is the great object; and as the lands, and not the custom-house was the exciting cause of the swollen, bloated, and diseased state of the currency, the remedy was directed to the lands, and not to the customs. All this is visible in the passage read It is also visible in the Treasury Order itself." is a very frank and explicit statement of the matter and which we had already known to be true; but we would ask, by what law are they authorized? Not by already very clearly shown; neither are they by any other known law. Such a law may exist, but it was not at that day (or this) known to exist. "De non apparentibus, et non existentibus eadem est ratio. The same rule applies to things which do not appear hands of speculators and capitalists, to the injury of the actual settlers in the new States, and of emigrants by the Senator, (and others,) that the President has a right to regulate the currency. But what says the honorable Mr. Rives (then for the Administration) in that debate? His words (already repeated) are equally true, and honorable to the speaker. "It is much the part a part of the legislative authority to say in what manner, and by what rule the collection of the public revenues shall be effected, as to say what amount, and from what sources it shall be raised." And a greater authority than Mr. Rives (the Constitution of the United States) after giving to Congress all legislative powers, gives them authority "TO MAKE ALL LAWS WHICH SHALL BE NECESSARY AND PROPER FOR CARRYING INTO EXE-CUTION THE FOREGOING POWERS AND ALL OTHER POWERS VESTED BY THIS CONSTITUTION IN THE GOVERNMENT

MEKEBOCK, We are satisfied by Our instead of the state of your instead of the state OF THE UNITED STATES, OR ANY DE PARTMENT THEREOF."

By looking at this remarkable order, we find law,constitution,-precedent,-all violated and set at open defiance. We have said enough to prove this-if thing so plain required proof. The next question is, the plea to be put by way of justification of such a high course? The Senator from Missouri has furnished us (in effect) with an argument at once (in his President is the sworn guardian and protector of the Constitution; ergo, it is his duty to require that nothing but gold and silver ought to be received for the public lands. But this syllogism would, in the first place, prove too little; because the public lands merely would be included, while the customs, a larger source of revenue, would be left out. In the second place, it would also prove too much ; for it would show that not only other executives, for a series of years had been ignorant or unmindful of their duty, but also that the late President himself, with all his reputed wisdom and vigilance, came late to the great discovery! Mr. Editor, by pursuing this argument, in its windings and relations, one absurdity follows another, until the whole terminates in laughter or disgust -Arguments so based, and so applied, are at all tie of little account. In the eloquent language of Johnson, "they fall like dust in the balance; without weight and without regard."

Another effect to be noticed in regard to the Circu lar was, that it made an unfounded distinction be tween the Custom-house and the Land Office. In the one, the notes of the specie-paying banks were while the same money, at the other, was at once re jected as unconstitutional and of no value! The tenthe Specie Circular makes an unauthorized der was simply good or bad according to which tion between the citizens of the different door of the U. S. Treasury it chanced to knock for States. The Constitution says: "The citizens of entrance! Its own intrinsic value was nothing. Was each State shall be entitled to the privileges and imnot this another thrust at the Constitution, not less munities of the citizens in the several States." By than at those great principles of equality and fairness the Treasury order, we find the citizens settling, or which the Constitution ever acknowledges, and desettled, in the States where the public lands chance to lights to show forth? Does it not also manifest, with lie, have a preference given them, to wit that they out any extrinsic proof, that Mr. Benton rightly con strued the President, when he said as already noticed shall not. It is time, we concede, that each State may, and does enact its own laws touching the political lands, but "to regulate currency." A President of

We have laid it down as a position in our first numthose same rights and privileges upon compliance with these laws; and that not so much by the State authority, or by virtue of the United States Constitution from, yet that in this particular instance it had been

however, and would be a mere waste of time to argue the subject hypothetically, when the actual instance are before us. As regards the mere question of expe diency, it would be a matter of little moment to address our attention to that subject. The visible effects upon the business and prosperity of an embarrassed country may be safely applied to for the answer. We also say that, in strictness, nothing can be really expedi-ent which (without extreme necessity) violates the Constitution and laws of the land; much less could it be said of the Specie Circular.

We have also suggested that the present Chief We have also suggested that the present Chief Magistrate apparently looked to the act of 1820 for authority upon which to ground the continuance, and by parity of reason, the inception of the Specie Circular. In support of that opinion, we merely refer to the answer of the President to a petition of the New York merchants in the summer of 1637, soon after the general suspension of specie payments by the banka, and where, although the act of 1820 is not referred to in terms, yet, by implication, seems to be looked to as the source of authority. If so, it was a superstructure, resting upon no real foundation, as already shown.

VIRGINIUS.

AN INDIAN STORY.

AN INDIAN STORY.

OR, MICKENOCK THE BRAVE:
From the N. Y. American.

A friend has sent us the following true and characteristic tale of Indian nature.

One afternoon, in the Spring of 1829, a young Indian, named Mickenock, of the Ottawa tribe on the eastern bank of Lake Michigan, having indulged too freely in the use of the fire drink, commenced a quarrel with, and finally stabbed to the heart, a son of one of the chiefs. Knowing that he must suffer death by the hands of some one of the family, whose relative he had killed, he immediately collected all his own family and fled into the woods. The chief and his sons at once commenced search for the murderer; no pains nor toil were spared to ferret his sons at once commenced search for the mur-derer; no pains nor toil were spared to ferret out the hiding place of the unfortunate and guilty Mickenock; but the summer passed, the leaves began to fall, and no trace could be found of the murderer; almost in despair, the old chief, burning to avenge the death of his son, looked about for some relative of Mickenock, upon whom he could satisfy this darling desire of the Indian heart; but no one could be found; all the family and blood relatives of Mickenock were with him in his hiding place. Despairing at family and blood relatives of Mickenock were with him in his hiding place. Despairing at length either of finding his enemy or avenging himself upon any of the blood relations, the chief determined to avail himself of the privilege allowed by Indian custom, and to avenge himself upon exe of the relatives of the wife of the murderer.

Mickenock, although effectually concealed

Mickenock, although effectually concealed from the old chief, was nevertheless conversant, through some of his friends, will all that was transpiring in the chief's wigwam, and determined that upon the day of the meeting of the great council, which was then soon to be held, he would deliver himself up to atone for the life of the son. The chief received the information with evident gratification.

A few weeks passed away, the great lodge was erected, and the council at length assembled. The chief communicated the intelligence which he had received from his son's marderer, and it was agreed that no business should be

which he had received from his son's murderer, and it was agreed that no business should be transacted until Mickenock should appear. The Council sat in silence until about twelve o'clock, when suddenly the brave Mickenock bounded into the midst of the Council, calmly surveyed the assembled chiefs, and sat down in silence in the centre of the lodge; his wife and little children immediately tollowed and formed a circle around him, then taking out his flim, be struck dren immediately followed and formed a circle around him; then taking out his flint, he struck a spark and lighted his pipe, and smoked it in silence; the eyes of all the Council and his little family were fixed intensely upon him. At length, Mickenock arose and addressed himself to the chief, saying, "I killed your son, he was a young brave, he did me no wrong, he was my friend. I drank the fire drink, the fire drink made me kill your son." Mickenock is very sorry, and deserves to die. Then turning to the eldest son of the deceased, he drew a knife from his bosom. "There," said Mickenock, "is the knife that drunk the heart's blood of your brother; take it, and, like a brave man, avenge your brother's death." This said, Mickenock instantly laid bare his whole breast. The brother spat upon his hand, clenched his knife with a death grasp, and drew up his arm. Mickenock, pointing to and drew up his arm. Mickenock, pointing to the spot nearest his heart, gave the word "strike." Instantly the brother plunged the knife to the hill into the bosom of the brave Mickenock, who fell dead at his feet.

Mickenock, who fell dead at his feet.

The wife and children of Mickenock beheld the whole scene, apparently without moving a the whole scene, apparently without moving a muscle; but the moment he expired they fell upon him, and embraced him, with sobs and tears, and groans and wailings, which cannot be described, and altogether presented a picture of such unfeigned arguish and genuine sorrow as to overcome and melt every spectator of the scene. After the wife and children of Mickenock had thus expressed their sorrow for about half an hour, the old chief thus addressed her—"Wife of Mickenock, we are satisfied: your husband was a brave man; he died like a brave man—hence shall be taught to be brave, like their father.

A POET'S SKETCH OF IRISH BEAUTY The poet Willis has furnished a sketch of some of the scenes and incidents connected with the marriage of Victoria. The portrait of Irish beauty

is quite rich.
"Moore's remark has been often quoted:-'Moore's remark has been often quoted:—
'There is nothing like an Irish woman to take a man off his feet.' But whether this figure was suggested by the little bard's common sobriquet of 'Jump-up-and-kiss-me-Tom Moore,' or siminto syllogistic form, simply this:—gold and silver is the only constitutional currency of the country; the acter of Irish beauty, contains, to any one who has ever travelled (or waltzed) in that country, a has ever traveled (or waitzed) in that country a very just, as well as realizing description. Physically, Irish women are probably the finest race in the world—I mean, taller, better limbed and chested, larger-eyed, and with more luxuriant hair and freer action than any other nation I have still kindles its dark fire in their eyes, and with the vivacity of the Northern skin, these Southern qualities mingle in most admirable and su-perb harmony. The idea we form of Italian and Grecian beauty is never realized in Greece and Italy, but we find it in Ireland, heightened and exceeded. Cheeks and lips of the delicacy and bright tint of carnation, with snowy teeth, and hair and eyebrows of jet, are what we should look for on the pallette of Apelles, could we recai look for on the pailette of Apelles, could we recal the painter, and reanimate his far-famed models and these varied charms, united, fall very com-monly to the share of the fair Milesian of the up-per classes. In other lands of dark eyes, the rareness of a fine-grained skin, so necessary to a brunette, makes beauty as rare; but whether it is the damp softness of the climate, or the infu-sion of Saxon bloed, a coarse skin is almost rever seep in Ireland.

er seen in Ireland.

"Modest to a proverb, the Irish woman is as unsuspecting of an impropriety as if it were an impossible thing, and she is as fearless and joyous as a midshipman, and sometimes as noisy. In a ball-room she looks ill-drest, not because her In a ball-room she looks ill-drest, not because her dress was ill-put on, but because she dances, not glides, sits down without care, pulls her flowers to pieces, and it her head-dress incommodes her, gives it a pull or push—acts which would be perfect insanity at Almack's. If she is offended, she asks for an explanation; if she does not understand you, she confesses her ignorance; if she wishes to see you the next day she tell you how. wishes to see you the next day, she tells you how and when. She is the child of nature, and chiland when. She is the child of nature, and children are not 'stylish.' The niminy-piminy, eye-avoiding, finger-tipped, drawling, don't-touch-me, manner of some of the fashionable ladies of our country, would amuse a cold and reserved English woman sufficiently, but they would drive an Irish girl into hysterics. I have most one of our fair country-people abroad, whose met one of our fair country-people abroad, whose Greeian stoop and exquisitely subdued manner was invariably taken for a fit of indigestion."